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International Convention on
the Elimination
of all Forms of
Racial Discrimination

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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Fiftieth session
Geneva, 3-21 March 1997

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The fiftieth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 3 to 21 March 1997. The first meeting of the session will be convened at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 3 March.

2. This document contains the provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Committee, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, together with annotations relating thereto.

3. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the tentative timetable for consideration of reports and further information submitted by States parties, for consideration of States parties' reports pursuant to the review procedure, and for consideration of the situation in States parties pursuant to the early-warning measures and urgent procedures.

4. In accordance with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the States parties are invited to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Report of the Chairman.

3. Organizational and other matters.

4. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early-warning and urgent procedures.

5. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention.

6. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention.

7. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

8. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session:

   (a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

   (b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights.

9. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories to which General Assembly resolution 1524 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention.

10. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. In accordance with rule 9, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and may, as appropriate, add, defer or delete items.

2. Report of the Chairman

The Committee will be presented with a report of the Chairman on the activities undertaken since the forty-ninth session and on the follow-up given to decisions taken at the forty-ninth session.

3. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee will consider its programme of work for the fiftieth session.

4. Prevention of racial discrimination including early-warning and urgent procedures

The Committee decided at its forty-fifth session to establish this as one of its regular and principal agenda items. Within the framework of its efforts to prevent racial discrimination, the Committee may decide to take early-warning measures aimed at preventing existing problems from escalating into conflicts; or it may decide to initiate urgent procedures aimed at responding to problems requiring immediate attention to prevent or limit the scale or number of serious violations of the Convention. The Committee may also take action or further action regarding States parties already considered under the item.

Pursuant to decisions taken at its forty-ninth session, the Committee has scheduled, at its fiftieth session, consideration of the situation in the following States parties: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Liberia, Rwanda, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Yugoslavia. The Committee may, at its discretion, schedule the consideration of other States parties on short notice.

In pursuance of established practice, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which they are scheduled for consideration by the Committee. The scheduling of the Committee's consideration of States parties under this item is set forth in the timetable below.

5. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention

At its fiftieth session, the Committee will consider reports received from the following States parties: Algeria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Guatemala, Iceland, Iraq, Luxembourg, Mexico, Pakistan, Panama, Swaziland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Pursuant to decisions taken at its forty-ninth session, the Committee has scheduled, at its fiftieth session, a review of the implementation of the Convention in a number of States parties whose reports are excessively overdue. Those States parties are the following: Afghanistan, Argentina, Bahamas, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, Niger, Philippines, Rwanda, Seychelles, Uganda and Yugoslavia.

In pursuance of established practice and in conformity with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration or review by the Committee. The scheduling of the Committee's consideration of reports submitted and the review of the implementation of the Convention in States parties whose reports are excessively overdue is set forth in the timetable below.

6. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVIII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under article 14 of the Convention.

In accordance with rule 88 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee during which communications under article 14 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

7. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention

At its fiftieth session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General concerning the status of submission of reports by States parties in accordance with article 9 of the Convention (CERD/C/322). Part A of that document indicates reports received from States parties and pending consideration by the Committee. Part B of the document contains information relating to overdue reports.

8. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention

Following a request made by the Committee at its seventh session in 1973, this item is included yearly on the Committee's provisional agenda.

Pursuant to article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the annual report of the Committee, covering its activities during the forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions, was submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session. The Committee will have before it the relevant summary records of the Third Committee and the relevant General Assembly resolutions.

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights

During the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, this item was considered by the Third Committee. For the consideration of this agenda item, the Committee will have before it the following documents:

(i) Note of the Secretary-General transmitting to the General Assembly the report of the 7th meeting of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies (A/51/482);

(ii) Relevant summary records and reports of the Third Committee;

(iii) Relevant General Assembly resolutions.

9. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories to which General Assembly resolution 1524 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention

Under this item, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General (CERD/C/323) concerning article 15 of the Convention and listing, as appropriate, copies of petitions, reports and working papers relating to the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

10. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

At its 695th meeting (thirtieth session) in August 1984, the Committee decided to keep this item on its agenda and requested the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the relevant activities which would be undertaken in accordance with the Programme of Action for the Third Decade.

The following timetable has been drawn up by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman, taking into account the relevant decisions taken by the Committee at its forty-ninth session.

Tentative timetable for consideration of reports and further information submitted by States parties, for consideration of States parties pursuant to the review procedure, and for consideration of States parties pursuant to the early-warning measures and urgent procedures

Monday, 3 March 1997

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Rechetov)	Fourteenth periodic report due in 1996 (CERD/C/299/Add.9)

Tuesday, 4 March 1997

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	(continued)
Burundi 2/ 3/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. de Gouttes)	Sixth periodic report (CERD/C/168/Add.1), considered at the 894th meeting in 1991, and further consideration of the situation at the 894th meeting in 1991, the 1026th, 1027th and 1063rd meetings in 1994, the 1124th meeting in 1995, and the 1160th meeting in 1996 (CERD/C/SR.894, 1026-1027, 1063, 1124 and 1160)
Rwanda 2/ 3/ (Country rapporteur: Mrs. Sadiq Ali)	Seventh periodic report (CERD/C/169/Add.1), considered at the 839th meeting in 1989, and further consideration of the situation at the 1027th and 1045th meetings in 1994, the 1097th meeting in 1995 and the 1153rd meeting in 1996 (CERD/C/SR.839, 1027, 1045, 1097 and 1153)

Wednesday, 5 March 1997

Luxembourg 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mrs. Sadiq Ali)	Ninth periodic report due in 1995 (CERD/C/277/Add.2)
Afghanistan 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Wolfrum)	Initial report (CERD/C/111/Add.3), considered at the 718th and 719th meetings in 1985 (CERD/C/SR.718-719)

1/ Periodic report.

2/ Review procedure (for States parties which are overdue in submitting reports).

3/ Early-warning measures and urgent procedures.

Argentina 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Ferrero Costa)	Tenth periodic report (CERD/C/172/Add.18), considered at the 892nd and 894th meetings in 1991 (CERD/C/SR.892 and 894)
Bahamas 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Lechuga Hevia)	Third periodic report (CERD/C/88/Add.2), considered at the 610th meeting in 1983 and reviewed at the 926th meeting in 1991 (CERD/C/SR.610 and 926)
Cambodia 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Yutzis)	Initial report (CERD/C/111/Add.4), considered at the 780th and 802nd meetings in 1987 (CERD/C/SR.780 and 802)
Cameroon 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. de Gouttes)	Eighth and ninth periodic reports (CERD/C/171/Add.1), considered at the 880th and 881st meetings in 1990 (CERD/C/SR.880-881)
Cuba 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. van Boven)	Ninth periodic report (CERD/C/184/Add.3), considered at the 894th and 895th meetings in 1991 (CERD/C/SR.894-895)
Dominican Republic 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Valencia Rodríguez)	Initial to third periodic reports (CERD/C/165/Add.1), considered at the 876th meeting in 1990 (CERD/C/SR.876)
Guatemala 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Yutzis)	Seventh periodic report due in 1996 (CERD/C/292/Add.1)
<u>Thursday, 6 March 1997</u>	
Guatemala	(continued)
Belarus 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. van Boven)	Fourteenth periodic report due in 1996 (CERD/C/299/Add.8)
<u>Friday, 7 March 1997</u>	
Belarus	(continued)
Mexico 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. de Gouttes)	Eleventh periodic report due in 1996 (CERD/C/296/Add.1)
<u>Monday, 10 March 1997</u>	
Bosnia and Herzegovina 3/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. van Boven)	

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 3/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Rechetov)	
Yugoslavia 2/ 3/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Wolfrum)	Ninth and tenth periodic reports (CERD/C/172/Add.9), considered at the 874th and 875th meetings in 1990, and further consideration of the situation at the 1003rd to 1006th meetings in 1994, the 1094th meeting in 1995 and the 1153rd meeting in 1996 (CERD/C/SR.874-875, 1003-1006, 1094 and 1153)
Ethiopia 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Chigovera)	Sixth periodic report (CERD/C/156/Add.3), considered at the 871st and 872nd meetings in 1990 (CERD/C/SR.871-872)
Jordan 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. van Boven)	Sixth periodic report (CERD/C/130/Add.3), and seventh and eighth periodic reports (CERD/C/183/Add.1), considered at the 864th meeting in 1990 (CERD/C/864)
Lebanon 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Garvalov)	Second to fifth periodic reports (CERD/C/65/Add.4), considered at the 516th meeting in 1981 and reviewed at the 923rd meeting in 1991 (CERD/C/SR.516 and 923)
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Garvalov)	Sixth to tenth periodic reports (CERD/C/172/Add.2), considered at the 852nd meeting in 1989 (CERD/C/SR.852)
Nepal 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mrs. Sadiq Ali)	Sixth to eighth periodic reports (CERD/C/148/Add.1), considered at the 787th meeting in 1987 (CERD/C/SR.787)
Germany 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Chigovera)	Thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1994 and 1996, respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/299/Add.5)
<u>Tuesday, 11 March 1997</u>	
Germany	(continued)
Pakistan 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Garvalov)	Tenth to fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994 and 1996, respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/299/Add.6)

Wednesday, 12 March 1997	
Pakistan	(continued)
Belgium 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Diaconu)	Ninth and tenth periodic reports, due in 1992 and 1994, respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/260/Add.2)
Thursday, 13 March 1997	
Belgium	(continued)
Mongolia 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Agha Shahi)	Ninth periodic report (CERD/C/149/Add.23) and tenth periodic report (CERD/C/172/Add.10), considered at the 839th and 840th meetings in 1989 (CERD/C/SR.839-840)
Netherlands 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Ferrero Costa)	Eighth periodic report (CERD/C/158/Add.9) and ninth periodic report (CERD/C/184/Add.4 and 6), considered at the 872nd and 873rd meetings in 1990 (CERD/C/SR.872-873)
Niger 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Ahmadu)	Eighth to tenth periodic reports (CERD/C/172/Add.1), considered at the 838th meeting in 1989 (CERD/C/SR.838)
Philippines 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Garvalov)	Eighth to tenth periodic reports (CERD/C/172/Add.17), considered at the 842nd and 843rd meetings in 1989 (CERD/C/SR.842-843)
Seychelles 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Valencia Rodríguez)	Fourth and fifth periodic reports (CERD/C/128/Add.3), considered at the 816th meeting in 1988 (CERD/C/SR.816)
Uganda 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Ahmadu)	Initial report (CERD/C/71/Add.2), considered at the 680th and 687th meetings in 1984 and reviewed at the 921st meeting in 1991 (CERD/C/SR.680, 687 and 921)
Iceland 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Valencia Rodríguez)	Fourteenth periodic report due in 1996 (CERD/C/299/Add.4)
Friday, 14 March 1997	
Iraq 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Wolfrum)	Eleventh to thirteenth periodic reports, due in 1991, 1993 and 1995, respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/240/Add.3)

Bulgaria 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Wolfrum)	Twelfth to fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1992, 1994 and 1996, respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/299/Add.7)
Monday, 17 March 1997	
Bulgaria	(continued)
Algeria 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mrs. Sadiq Ali)	Eleventh and twelfth periodic reports, due in 1993 and 1995, respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/280/Add.3)
Tuesday, 18 March 1997	
Swaziland 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mrs. Sadiq Ali)	Fourth to thirteenth periodic reports of Swaziland, due in 1976, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992 and 1994, respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/299/Add.2)
Panama 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Ferrero Costa)	Tenth to fourteenth periodic reports of Panama, due in 1988, 1990, 1992 and 1994, respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/299/Add.1)
Thursday, 20 March 1997	
Liberia 3/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Wolfrum)	